

LOUISIANA *Conservationist*

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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Conservation Pledge

I give my
pledge as an American
to defend and faithfully to
save from waste the
natural resources of
my country—its soil
and minerals, its
forests, waters
and wildlife

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in the interest of conser-
vation of Louisiana's nat-
ural resources by the
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isiana, 70130.*



Enforcing boat registration and safety laws on Ouachita River on the 4th of July during the celebration there was a pleasure for wildlife agent, Frank Swojce. He had as a passenger none other than Cherie Jean Martin, "Miss Louisiana of 1963" who was crowned during the Miss Louisiana Festivities. Miss Martin is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. H. B. Martin of Pineville, Louisiana.
(Photo by Joe L. Herring)

LOUISIANA Conservationist

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EDITORIAL

AT NOON ON September 5, the 1964-65 Louisiana hunting season will start. Thousands of hunters will be taking to the fields seeking doves that supply great sport to gunners of all ages. Dove hunting long has been considered one of the best forms of hunting in which to introduce a youthful shooter to wholesome outdoor recreation which all types of hunting offers.

Following the first part of the dove season, other seasons will be opening up in September and October. The hunting seasons offer the best opportunity to instill good outdoor manners in young hunters. Efforts along this line serve a two-fold purpose. When an adult hunter is teaching a young hunter the ropes, he finds himself in the position of taking a refresher course.

In setting the example, he finds that not only are his own outdoor manners improved but fellow hunters respect him. They also begin paying more attention to how they conduct themselves in the field.

It doesn't take the presence of a young hunter to bring into sharp focus certain responsibilities which all hunters have.

Safe gun handling manners are of prime importance in the field. While firearms accidents are relatively low when compared with automobile accidents and other accidents which may involve hunters, gun accidents attract more attention. They serve to frighten parents. In many cases young people pleading for guns and the opportunity to hunt are denied guns and proper instruction in how to use them.

As a result, they seek young companions who have guns. Some of the most shocking firearms accidents occur when young untrained hunters take to the field.

There's more to hunting manners than gun handling but it should be pointed out that persons who are careless with guns soon find that experienced hunters shun them. They lose part of the pleasure of hunting which is pleasant companionship.

With open land disappearing at a rapid rate, the problem of having a place to hunt is becoming increasingly important. It is not considered good hunting manners to despoil the land on which all of us must live, to litter the countryside with trash, or to befoul streams and shorelines with refuse. Nor is it good manners to trespass on private property, regardless of whether the land is posted or not.

There are a lot of landowners, both large and small, who do not hunt themselves, nor is their land leased for hunting purposes. In some cases,

those lands which could offer fine sport in the form of hunting are posted.



J. D. HAIR, JR.
Director

It's a safe guess that they are not posted because the landowner wishes to deprive sportsmen of hunting opportunity. The chances are that his fences were damaged in the past, that hunters left litter in his fields following lunch. Water bottles, empty and abandoned, can damage the tires of pick-up trucks. Tin cans are capable of putting a disc out of commission

for a day or two. Expensive livestock can be hurt or even killed by an unthinking hunter. Gates carelessly left open are a sore spot with many landowners.

Personal contact with the landowner is one of the most important keys to his opening private land for hunting purposes. A half-hour visit may bring permission to hunt and an invitation to return.

These are but a few of the facets of what is referred to as good hunting manners. There are others as well, and I would like to discuss some responsibilities that can rightfully be interpreted as duties of hunters while afield.

In this category falls the responsibility of preventing forest or brush fires and reporting fires as quickly as possible. Any hunter careless with a campfire will also be careless in other ways. Forest fires not only destroy timber but also destroy wildlife and natural habitat necessary to maintain wildlife.

In many cases, individual hunters believe that enforcement of game laws is a matter in which they have no interest and the sole duty of the Commission's Enforcement Division. It is the duty of every hunter to report violations of game laws to the nearest wildlife agent. It is not a question of someone "putting something over on enforcement agents." On the contrary, the person who violates game laws is putting something over on his fellow hunters. It is their responsibility to help protect their own interests and own wildlife resources.

On the eve of what can possibly prove to be the most satisfying hunting season in the history of Louisiana, it is the duty of every hunter to brush up on his hunting manners and basic responsibilities to others. *

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THE WILDLIFE AGENT

A GENTS OF THE Enforcement Division of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission today represent a closely-knit, fast-moving and highly-trained task force operating in every parish of the state with the basic job of enforcing fish and game laws. However, because of their deep interest in all of the facets of being wildlife agents the scope of their activities is much greater than the average reader would believe.

To most sportsmen, wildlife agents are those men who check to see that hunters and fishermen have valid licenses and have not harvested more than the legal share of game or game fish. They also patrol both marsh and wooded areas to make certain that no hunting is done out of season.

It is well known that close attention is paid to commercial fisheries—running the gamut from fresh water to salt water operations. Commercial operations must be carried out in a legal manner and it is the duty of wildlife agents to enforce all laws regarding the taking of commercial seafoods and commercial fresh water fish.

It would be well to point out at this time that enforcement of state laws governing the taking of both commercial seafoods and fresh water fish is not founded on what might be called punitive thinking. In reality, Louisiana's aquatic resources, both inland and coastal, are part of the overall economy of the State.

If our fisheries resources are not kept as renewable sources of income, over-exploitation would result in hardships not only on the thousands of individuals and families depend upon annual income from vast fisheries resources but upon numerous retail outlets handling everything from consumer goods to equipment and supplies.

It is a well established fact that our national population is expanding at such a rapid pace that it will be double within four decades. At the



Two-way radios are the life blood of enforcement agents in the field. No matter how remote the area, they are always in contact with other agents who can be directed from a central spot. Assistance is readily available.

same time, individuals seeking outdoor recreation are expected to triple while the population doubles. Principal reason for this is the marked trend toward outdoors recreation brought about



Radio communications are vitally important in enforcing fish and game laws. Here, two agents are concealed in the woods. Walki-Talki radios allow them to keep in communication with radio equipped automobiles, boats and planes. The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has one of the finest statewide two-way radio systems of any similar enforcement agency anywhere in the country.

by better pay standards, shorter work weeks, steadily increasing private boat ownership, and many other factors which place growing demand on wildlife resources for individual and family utilization.

Law enforcement is one key to preservation and even enlargement of wildlife resources. The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission is faced with the task of enforcing laws to perpetuate all fish and wildlife resources—both for commercial and for maximum recreational purposes.

This might be termed as the basic function of the Enforcement Division but the responsibilities and duties greatly transcend the fundamentals generally and popularly associated with wildlife agents.

First, and perhaps most important, in accomplishing all of the basic requirements of the job; the wildlife agents are the foremost representatives of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission as far as the public is concerned. How they conduct themselves, the parish and community programs in which they participate, the services which they render sportsmen—all are of the public concept of a wildlife agent and the Commission he represents.

In many instances, the wildlife enforcement agent in Louisiana has the dual task of enforcing the laws pertaining to wildlife and fisheries and at the same time carrying the message of what the Commission is doing to foster wildlife and improve fisheries to the people with whom he comes in contact.

In most cases, wildlife agents are active members of sportsmen's groups in the parishes in which they serve. They also work with Boy Scout and Girl Scout leaders, assisting whenever possible in programs pertaining to wildlife and conservation. Many agents also serve on



For coastal patrol in particular and for spotting fish and game violators in rivers, inland lakes and bayous, enforcement is carried out by wildlife agents by air, boat and automobile. Here, Commission enforcement personnel prepare for a take off in a light seaplane for routine patrol along the fringe of coastal bays, bayous and streams. In constant communication with other mobile and marine units by statewide radio, these agents can check on reported violations while on patrol.

youth committees. The feeling is statewide among agents that this work with young people will serve a long-range program to educate young sportsmen to the importance of wildlife resources. In turn they will have more respect for the fish and game laws as they grow older.



A special detail of agents making up the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries water Safety Patrol is deployed throughout the state. It is their duty to check on boaters to make certain that they have the proper safety equipment aboard, that their boats are not overloaded and that all of the regulations of the boat registration law have been complied with. In numerous cases, agents of the Safety Patrol assist in rescue work. Highly-mobile, these units can be rushed to places where they are needed.



The value of light sea-planes in enforcement work cannot be over-emphasized. Here, a Commission patrol plane drops down for close inspection of a boat traveling in inland waters. During the closed shrimp seasons, planes can cover great areas in much less time than boats. Agents aboard can check to see if craft are properly registered and can apprehend violators on the spot.



It is also the duty of wildlife agents to check on fishing licenses and to make certain that anglers do not take more than a fair share of sport fish, and that their equipment is legal and proper. In many cases, while on routine patrol, wildlife agents lend assistance to persons who may have run out of gasoline or encountered engine trouble.

This reflects a program of preventing violations by working with and informing young people during their formative years; and also doing pioneering work with adults. Management of game and fish resources today is a more exacting science. It is sometimes difficult to convince persons who remember "the good old days" when the sky was the limit that the limits today are evolved upon the need to protect wildlife resources for future generations.

Another important function of Louisiana's wildlife agents today is fostering safety in boating. National figures for the sales of boats and motors of all sizes and descriptions during the past decade clearly reveal that private boating

is growing at a pace which was not dreamed of 10 or 12 years ago.

One does not hear the term "two-car family" nearly as often today as he hears the phrase "car and boat family." In most cases, that means a trailer as well. Pleasure boating and use of boats in hunting and fishing has come of age.

When the Congress of the United States passed the boat registration law several years ago for all craft powered by engines of more than 10 h.p., the alternative was granted the states to come up with boat registration laws that were



In off hours, it is only natural that wildlife agents spend a great deal of time with sportsmen's groups and other conservation organizations. In meeting with these groups and demonstrating their interest, Louisiana's wildlife agents have gained the respect and friendship of people in all walks of life. It serves a two-fold purpose. They are provided with the opportunity to explain programs and plans of the Commission and to stimulate public support for those programs.

acceptable to the national standard established by the U.S. Coast Guard, or to allow the Coast Guard to administer the national public boating law.

Louisiana came up with a program of registration which fully met the specifications laid down by federal law. Registration of boats and proper numbering of boats, as conducted by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, is more of a public service than a restriction of boating.

It serves a number of sound purposes for which every boat owner should be grateful. Boats that are stolen or involved in accidents are readily known. Registration leads to faster recovery of stolen boats and motors. It also serves to identify boats which are involved in accidents, as well as boats being operated in a careless or hazardous manner.

Along with the boat registration law, the Enforcement Division was given the added duty of checking boats, not only for proper registration but also for basic safety equipment aboard such as life preservers, fire extinguishers when required, and other small items which all add up to safety afloat in these days of booming family boating.

While all enforcement agents are fully aware of the proper requirements for boats, the Enforcement Division has a special boating safety patrol section, primarily assigned to checking boats to make certain that operators have the proper equipment.

In a state blessed with so many waterways—a virtual lacework of rivers, streams, bayous, bays and canals—which serve to increase boating activity, it can be stated with certainty that Louisiana's wildlife agents have assisted more boaters in emergencies than in any other section of the country. They are a welcome sight to lost boaters and those who develop engine trouble. Their services to the public have been countless, and are deeply appreciated. *

Wildlife Shorts

Due to constant patrolling by the Enforcement Division of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission the state's coastal inside waters have been cleared of fishing boats in closed seasons. Nets are impounded and the illegal catches distributed to charitable institutions, thus keeping violations of this character at a minimum.

Total fines collected in District Courts and Federal Courts during the years 1960-1961 totaled \$35,652.00.

Louisiana ranks fifth in the United States in water area, having 1,982,080 acres of water. This probably represents only open water and does not take in the many potholes, sloughs and swamps that occur in the state. In actuality, the total waterfowl range encompasses some 7,403,478 acres or about 23.8 per cent of the total state area.

Book To Head Enforcement



The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has announced the appointment of Julius L. Book as chief of its enforcement division. Book, who has served as assistant chief for several years, replaces acting chief Leonard C. New of Kentwood who becomes assistant chief.

Book, who has been in the service of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and the old department of conservation for 35 years, is a native of Catahoula parish. He now makes his home in New Orleans. A veteran boat pilot, he is thoroughly familiar with the waterways of Louisiana and is personally acquainted with most of the enforcement agents he supervises.

"I appreciate the confidence placed in me by the commission and will do everything in my power to see that the game and fish laws of the state are upheld," Book remarked upon taking office.

The announcement was made during the regular July monthly meeting of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission. *

GO rabbit hunting

Jack O. Collins

IT WAS in early November on a cool Saturday morning when Tom parked in my driveway at about 5:30. We loaded my four beagles, Spade, Suzie, Sam, and Bell, into his car and departed quickly. The dogs were quite excited and I didn't want them to wake all the neighborhood.

This was going to be our first real rabbit hunt since the season opened about a month before. Up to now I had been conditioning my dogs by letting them run cottontails in some old fields that had grown up in weeds and brush. On a couple of occasions I let them run swamp rabbits, too, so they'd be accustomed to the woods. It was about an hours drive to the place where we planned to hunt along with two other men who were to meet us there.

Many rabbit hunters will tell you they like to wait until after the first heavy frost before they

venture in big woods after swamp rabbits. They feel that visibility is improved by this time of year, and it is easier for the dogs to pursue a rabbit. Also, on the colder days snakes are less active. Our group doesn't have a special time to start a hunt because we take to the woods every chance we get, during the open season, regardless of the weather. Besides that, lots of the places we go are so thick with palmettos, vines, and brush that you can't see the ground in front of you no matter what time of the year you are there. There are usually some small openings close by that are large enough to enable the hunter to spot the rabbit as it hops along.

By seven o'clock we had arrived at the spot where our hunt was to begin. I turned the beagles loose as soon as we stopped the car. They began milling around waiting for us to start moving into the woods. My dogs are trained to hunt close



Contrary to popular opinion, the beagle is America's outstanding dog. Demand for beagles is growing constantly. These relatively small hounds can be trained to hunt many forms of game but when it comes to rabbit hunting the beagle is a real pro. A pack of beagle hounds, bugling in hot pursuit, is an increasingly familiar sound in Louisiana. More hunters are taking to rabbit hunting each year.



Here a hunter holds a hefty swamp rabbit, big brother of the smaller cottontail. The name is not quite appropriate because swamp rabbits are found in many sections of the state and not just in the coastal parishes.

and usually when one of them jumped a rabbit it was seldom over one or two hundred yards from us.

Actually, little equipment other than good dogs is needed for this type of hunt. Tom, who was a newcomer to this sport had a borrowed gun. It was a single barrel 20 gauge. Floyd and Calvin, the other two in our party, were both experienced hunters, and both had 12 gauge pumps. I shoot a double barrel 12 gauge. For rabbits most any size shot can be used. Floyd and Calvin used no. 6 shot—they were best at distance shooting. Tom and I had 7½ shot.

Finally, everyone was ready and we started walking into the woods. Anticipation was high. Almost immediately Tom looked around and asked, "Why don't we hunt across the road? I can see it is much more open over there and it would be easier on us". Calvin snickered at this remark, but I pointed out to Tom that both kinds of rabbits that are found in Louisiana, cottontails and swamp rabbits, require extensive amounts of nesting, resting, and hiding cover. In most of this state food supplies are adequate year round.

Floyd, not very talkative by nature, injected a comment. "You could have a ten acre patch of rye grass one foot deep, but if permanent type cover wasn't close by there would be but few, if any, rabbits present". From where we stood a fairly large number of livestock was visible in the woods across the road. These animals by eating all kinds of vegetation within their reach were naturally reducing habitat and food, too. We had selected the area we were in because it was not open range and consequently food and cover were plentiful. Each year at the beginning of the hunting season I get permission from the landowner to hunt on this property?

The people who hunted with me preferred swamp rabbit hunting. This Saturday's hunt was

a typical one for us. We were in bottomland hardwood country. Common tree species were water and willow oaks, nuttall or striped oak, sweet gum, tupelo gum, ash, and others of less importance. Palmettos, those fanlike shrubs common in much of south Louisiana, made up most of the dense ground cover. But along with this there were entanglements of blackberry thickets and literally thousands of ash sprouts plus peppervine and trumpet creeper vines scattered throughout the area. Small openings or "flats" usually lay adjacent to these thickets.

On wet years these flats and other low lying places on this property remain flooded for rather long periods of time. When this occurs during the breeding season which is mainly from February through September, many of the new born rabbits are lost. But any time a dry period occurs the population can make a rapid recovery. One adult female may bear several litters during this period, possibly as many as six. A litter usually contains three or four. From this, it is plain that rabbits can replenish their supply at a rapid rate.

While moving along slowly we occasionally whooped at the dogs. This whooping seemed to keep our spirits high and gave the dogs added push. It wasn't long before I heard Calvin remark, "They should get one up shortly. Cover looks good here."

Probably less than a minute later Spade opened up. We knew it was a rabbit because that's all he'd chase. There were no deer to speak of in the places we hunt rabbits. Quickly, the other three dogs joined the race. My dogs were fairly fast considering their size. They are all 13" beagles. The rabbit didn't go far before he began to circle. Generally speaking, this is characteristic of a swamp rabbit. It eventually returns to the vicinity from which he was jumped if pursued

low enough. There was a two foot high stump close to where Spade had jumped the rabbit. Tom took this stand. We told him that the rabbit might be well ahead of the dogs when it returned. Floyd had also pointed out to Tom that talking was a companionable part of a rabbit hunt, but when the dogs jump everyone is supposed to pick a stand quickly and then be quiet and very still. This is true because rabbit ears are large and can be adjusted to different angles enabling the animal to detect the slightest sound. Big eyes on the sides of its head make it possible for a rabbit to sight objects in front, on the sides, and even behind him. Even after all this cautioning the rabbit slipped right past Tom. He knew this because he saw the dogs as they raced by about thirty yards from his stand. A few seconds later the rabbit ran by Floyd and he bagged it. We got two more rabbits out of that same thicket before we moved on.

Not far from where Tom took his first stand he called our attention to small bits of rabbit fur on an open trail.

"Looks like the work of a bobcat", Calvin said.

I agreed. Bobcats are expert rabbit hunters, masters at moving quietly from place to place waiting for a swamper to hop into the open. But cats are just one of many enemies rabbits have. All through its life the rabbit is hunted by nearly every bird and animal that eats flesh, and is plagued by parasites, diseases, droughts, and floods. This is just nature's way of removing the weaker ones from the total population. When fewer, but healthy, dominant ones remain the predators and diseases thin out, too. Those remaining are sufficient in number to replenish the next year's supply.

About fifteen minutes elapsed before the dogs jumped another rabbit. We had moved in a southerly direction during this time and finally reached a "timber chopping". It was almost exactly two years before, during the dry part of the fall when loggers cut most of the ash timber in that particular area. Logging operations are an excellent tool in the management of swamp rabbits. Almost immediately cover is provided in the form of tree tops and brush heaps. Logging also makes openings. Plants that serve both as providers of food and cover grow rapidly in them. In this area our expectations were not to be denied. Rabbit sign was everywhere. Tom finally got lucky and smarter. He bagged two of five we removed from an area of about ten acres.

By now it was about noon, and besides, the dogs were beginning to show fatigue, not to mention poor Tom. We decided to head back to the car. On the way out we made plans for our next hunt.

"At long last here is the car," Tom said as he reached for his keys to open the door. After we loaded the dogs and drove off he commented.

"Rabbit hunting in these swamps is no easy sport but I sure do like it." *

Tranquilized DEER

Robert Murry

I'LL COME BACK and report after I ease up to the edge of the field and look", said Dan Dennett, Deer Study Leader of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission.

Dan meant to check on the progress in the latest of our efforts to learn how to capture wild deer with orally administered tranquilizers.

Several minutes later someone in the group of men clustered around the coffee pot at the Commission's house trailer said, "I wonder what happened to Dan?"

We all realized that enough time had elapsed for Dan to walk the 200 yards to the baited field and back several times. Peering through the darkness across the Gum Cove prairie we could see Dan's headlight near the ground and practically motionless. As soon as a beam of inquiring light was sent his way he responded with a vigorous side to side headlight movement which in signal language meant "come to me".

Why was Dan down? Had he met with an accident? These and many more questions entered our minds as we hurried across the prairie to where he was.

Dan had not made it all of the way to the baited field but had come across a thoroughly relaxed adult doe taking life easy in the shallow dry road ditch outside the field. Dan was holding her waiting for us to come to his aid with a tying rope.

She was trussed up quickly and a radio call went out to the two deer hauling trucks and other commission personnel and out-of-state observers who were parked at the north edge of the ranch awaiting word that it was time to move in and capture the deer.

This adult doe was moved to a new range along with 11 others from the same field to augment in establishment of a new herd for Louisiana's growing number of deer hunters. Her main claim to fame, however, was the fact that she was the first wild deer ever captured in Louisiana by the use of drugs given in bait. Indeed, to our knowledge, she was the first such animal ever captured anywhere by this method.

For three years Dennett and his co-workers had worked with techniques for getting wild animals to voluntarily take enough drug to render themselves docile enough for man to approach and capture them by hand.

Many captive animals such as raccoons, nutria, squirrels, foxes, various birds and deer were used in computing proper dosage. Hypodermic injections, oral administration by mixing with various foods, and by simply dusting the drug into the

mouths of some captive raccoons were the methods of treatment.

Pet deer and penned pasture deer were used until confidence and adequate knowledge were acquired to actually capture free ranging wild deer.

A field was prebaited for weeks to establish a feeding pattern. Invitations were sent out to neighboring state game departments to send observers to help evaluate the use of the new deer capture method. Game management personnel from Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee,



A tranquilized deer lying near the trough that contained the drugged feed. This deer is one of 12 taken from the captive herd of 26 deer.



Charles Marshall, left, of the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, and Bob Noble, deer biologist, of the Mississippi Game and Fish Commission, take a blood sample from a wild buck deer captured from the baited oat field on the Moore Ranch. The blood sample is to be used in a survey of occurrence of anaplasmosis (a cattle disease) in deer of the southeastern states.



The captive deer herd on the R. A. Moore ranch in Cameron Parish. Techniques for getting deer to consume baited feed were worked out with this herd.

Florida, Georgia and North Carolina were on hand for the demonstration. They helped in the capture of the 12 deer taken that evening. It was found that the history making doe Dan had stumbled across was the exception rather than the rule. Only two or three other deer were near the comatose state that the first doe had been found in. As previous work had indicated, partially drugged deer made rapid recovery if they were excited. The 12 captures came from about three times that number that had eaten some of the drugged feed.

The setting for the demonstration was an oat field planted for deer and wild geese of the R. A. Moore Ranch in Cameron Parish. This spacious cattle, rice and quarter horse ranch has made a very substantial contribution to the Louisiana wildlife conservation program over the years. A captive herd of penned deer has provided a large number of deer for the state's restocking program as well as providing a herd for pilot studies in development of the techniques for tranquilizing, capturing and handling deer.

The ranch is also the location of one of Louisiana's liberations of foreign game birds. The black francolin, from India, released there in 1961 apparently is established on the ranch and for several miles in every direction, except south from the release point.

The confidence Mr. and Mrs. Moore have shown in the research biologists assigned the task of digging out answers to many questions regarding tranquilizers, along with their hospitality and cooperation have been the difference between failure and success for this particular phase of the study. Many of the visitors, all professional game people, have written commenting upon the bountiful supply of wildlife observed on the ranch. Especially impressive where the flocks of Canada geese that winter here in greater numbers than anywhere else in Louisiana.

The drug is call Tranimul and is produced by Hoffman—LaRoche of Nutley, New Jersey. It was made available to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, for research purposes. We are greatly impressed by the wide range of possible uses suggested by the research to date.

Two technical papers dealing with our work and experience have been written by the author and Dan Dennett. One of these "A Preliminary Report on the Use of Tranquilizing Compounds in Handling Wildlife", was presented at the Southeastern Association of Game and Fish Commissioners in October of 1963 at Hot Springs, Arkansas. The other by the same workers, "Informal Report of Tranquilizer Demonstration—January 21, 1964," recounts experiences at the demonstration on the Moore ranch January 21 and 22 of this year.

These papers plus the demonstration have served to stimulate interest in this work throughout the United States and Canada. While Louisiana will continue to initiate some wildlife uses of tranquilizers it is felt that by sharing our present knowledge with others the full potential can be developed much more rapidly. *

PASS-A-LOUTRE

Ted Joanen



Intensive research studies have revealed that delta duck potato is one of the most desirable food plants for attracting thousands of ducks to Pass-a-Loutre each winter.

THE 66,000 acre Pass-a-Loutre Waterfowl Management Area, owned and operated by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, is located at the mouth of the Mississippi River and provides some of the best duck hunting in Louisiana. The public camp hunting program was started in 1954 and it is with great pride that the Commission announces the program will be made available to the public again this season.

Nine overnight camps are located throughout the central portion of the management area and gives access to some 20,000 acres of choice duck hunting country. The use of these camps is restricted to duck hunters who make applications to the Commission and are selected by drawings. Although the actual dates for the drawings and hunts have not been set in general hunting will be continued in the same fashion as last year. Morning shooting only will be allowed in the public area east of South Pass. This is done to allow the birds to return in the evening to feed and rest and to insure good hunting throughout the entire waterfowl season.

For a small nominal fee the Commission supplies boat transportation from Venice, Louisiana, to Pass-a-Loutre and return. Once at Pass-a-Loutre the hunter is provided with an overnight camp, cooking gear, butane, drinking water, beds, decoys, and duck boats, plus a two-day hunt on

some of the finest duck hunting marshes Louisiana has to offer.

In addition to the nine camps, one-third of the public shooting grounds is open on a free permit basis to hunters who wish to use their own equipment and facilities. The free permits, issued by the Commission, are valid for the entire waterfowl season. Duck hunting on this area is equally as good as the reserved camps and has been improving for the past three years.

The use of retrievers will be premitted again this year, in order to encourage their use in waterfowl hunting. This is a sound conservation measure since the crippling loss of ducks is greatly reduced.

The public hunting camps have all received preventative type maintenance when needed, also each camp is thoroughly cleaned prior to the hunting season. Hunters using the camps at Pass-a-Loutre have always been very complimentary as to their comfort and conditions.

The marshes at Pass-a-Loutre are in excellent condition. Because of its unique location the high river stages last spring flooded the lower delta and created ideal conditions for the production of desirable waterfowl food plants. One of the more important plants used by many different species of wildlife is the delta duck potato. Small tubers which form at the base of this plant serve as a modified stem and are highly utilized by

waterfowl. With the annual silting effect caused by the spring flooding the river deposits as much as 4 inches of fertile soil on Pass-a-Loutre each year. Extensive stands of delta duck potato are produced as a result of this deposition. An extensive research program was begun to study the production, utilization and value of this plant. Preliminary reports from this investigation indicate a very high utilization by nutria, duck, and geese on Pass-a-Loutre. Under experimental conditions it was found to produce over 12,000 pounds of tubers per acre.

Biologists of the Commission have collected waterfowl kill data for a number of years at the public hunting camps. A definite increase in hunter's interest was indicated during the 1963-64 waterfowl season. The information for the past two seasons gives an average kill per hunter's effort of 1.85 during the 1962-63 season which was 25 days in length and had a bag limit of only two ducks per day. During the more liberal 1963-64 season an average of 3.49 ducks per hunter's effort were bagged.

By the time this edition reaches its readers the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service will have set the waterfowl season framework and the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries will have established the time of the Louisiana waterfowl season.

Application dates, drawings and hunting dates will be announced in the November-December issue of the Conservationist and by news releases to the state's newspapers, radio and television stations. *



Large stands of roseau cane in shallow pond areas provide ideal hunting conditions.

Afternoons at the public camps are spent cleaning the morning bag and trying to account for all the misses.



64 TARPON RODEO A



1. Dr. Don L. Peterson, right, a past president of the Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo and assistant grand chairman, is shown presenting one of the place trophies in the 1964 rodeo.

2. Judge Walter B. Hamlin, Supreme Court Justice, is holding up "four tarpon" flag presented to Governor John J. McKeithen following "capping" ceremony in which Governor McKeithen was named Admiral of the Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo Fishing Fleet. 3. Dr. Charles Odom, chairman of the special committee which brought about the first big tent headquaters and display of fish, is shown presenting a trophy to one of the many winners in the rodeo. 4. Rodeo contestant poses beside one of the big tarpon in the 32nd Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo. 5. Here another tarpon fisher receives an award for catching a fine tarpon in the three-day rodeo which was staged at Grand Isle July 16, 17 and 18. 6. McFadden Duffy receives the A. Miles Coe Memorial Trophy from Ann Wolvoord for the most outstanding services to the 1964 rodeo by a member of the news media. 7. N. Higgins, rodeo weighmaster, is shown weighing a 531 pound Tiger snout caught by Albert Schieffler of Venice, La. 8. Governor John J. McKeithen wearing a full Admiral cap presented to him by the Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo Association, is shown speaking briefly to the thousands of spectators who jammed the big tent for the final ceremonies and awarding of trophies.

FACTS RECORD CROWD



Mayor Victor Schiro, New Orleans, president of the 1964 Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo is shown giving final ceremonies talking with Urban C. Wilkinson, long-time general chairman of the big fishing contest.

10. Roy Whotley, chairman of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission; J. D. Hair, Jr., commission director; Governor McKeithen and Mrs. McKeithen are shown chatting on the grand stand during closing ceremonies of the rodeo. 11. Mayor Victor Schiro is shown presenting a souvenir gift to John McKeithen, wife of the Governor. 12. Mayor Victor Schiro, flanked on the left by Urban C. Wilkinson, rodeo general chairman, and on the right Governor McKeithen, is shown presenting the first "President's Plaque" to Roy Whotley. 13. A young angler is shown admiring a trophy winning tarpon that she caught. 14. The huge tent headquarters for the 1964 Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo was filled with several thousand registrants and spectators the final night of the rodeo. 15. Morion Higgins, weighmaster, is shown weighing the first billfish to be entered in the 1964 rodeo. Another feature this year's rodeo was installation of scales capable of weighing fish up to 100 pounds. 16. The prize tarpon of the rodeo was this 145½ pound silver tarpon taken by Alcee Allemmand of Houma. It struck a trolled lure on the last day of the three-day annual tarpon rodeo.





The Concordia Wildlife Management Area, leased and managed by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, serves as a good example of private individuals and companies making their lands available to sportsmen of the state. Enhanced and improved for wildlife, areas such as this offer countless hours of outdoor recreation for the growing number of people seeking places to hunt, fish and enjoy the big outdoors.

Planning for the Future

Concordia Wildlife Management Area

Dewey Wills

THE LOUISIANA Wildlife and Fisheries Commission realizes that modern working conditions are giving the average man more free time. Current trends indicate that each year thousands of new names are being added to the ever-growing list of hunters. Combined with this rapid increase in the number of hunters is more intensive use of land and the conversion of wildlife habitat to many other uses. This poses many problems and the Commission must plan for the future in order to cope with these problems.

At the present rate of growth, experts say that the United States population will hit the 200 million mark sometime in 1967 and may exceed 400 million by the year 2010. Louisiana has been shar-

ing, and will continue to share, in this vast population expansion. Unless action is taken now and wildlife resources managed wisely, many would-be hunters of the future will never have the privilege of spending a cool October morning stalking an acorn flat in quest of bushy tails or the privilege of sitting half frozen on a stump in the swamp on opening day of deer season waiting for that prized quarry to come his way.

With this in mind, the Commission recently established a new 11,000 acre wildlife management area in Concordia Parish. This land area has been made possible through the courtesy of Panola Land and Development Company, Fisher Lumber Corporation, Mrs. Mary H. Bullis, and

Mr. James C. Cochran. Special appreciation is due these landowners for making available approximately 11,000 acres of excellent game habitat free of charge to the sportsmen.

This area is located just west of Ferriday and lies within the Mississippi flood plain. The terrain of the area consists of a series of ridges and sloughs with timber composition being typical mixed bottom land hardwoods. Primarily, tree species consist of water and willow oak, red gum, green ash, overcup oak, elm, bitter pecan, honey locust and cypress. The understory is composed primarily of blackberry, palmetto, smilax, rattan, trumpet vine, pepper vine, hawthorns, swamp dogwood and other shrubs and vines.

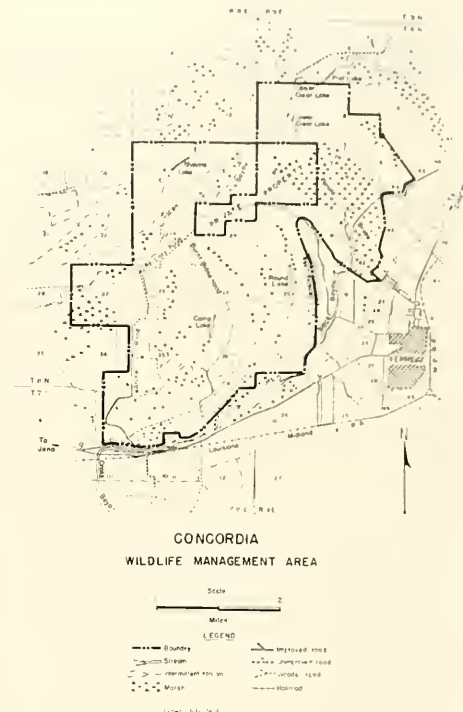
Since acquiring this land the following development projects have been completed: Thirty-one miles of boundary line has been marked, painted with white paint and boundary markers placed at various intervals. Entrance markers have been placed at the main access points. A cattle guard has been placed at the main entrance and approximately 4 miles of improved dirt roads have been constructed on the area. A two-span 30 foot bridge has been constructed across one of the many drainage canals that traverse the area. Several miles of "wood roads" have been clipped by use of tractor and bushhog mower. The construction of these roads will aid in hunter access to the area.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will develop the Concordia Wildlife Area for maximum public recreation usage; managing the area primarily for deer, squirrels, rabbits, waterfowl, and possibly wild turkey. Following is a brief resume of what is planned or what has already been accomplished and what the public may expect with the next few years.

Deer: Thirty-one deer have been released on the area to supplement the few deer already present on the area. The area is primarily used for timber production, therefore, any logging operation will be beneficial for this growing deer herd. With proper protection this herd should develop into a huntable population within the next few years. This area is capable of supporting a high deer population and deer hunters should be reaping the benefits of this program in the near future.

Squirrels and rabbits: This area furnishes excellent squirrel hunting, and the best management tool is to harvest the surplus each year. It is planned to have as long a squirrel season each year on the area as possible but not to interfere with other management programs being carried on. There is good rabbit population also on the area and hunting will be permitted concurrent with the squirrel season held each year. No dogs are allowed on the area. Some rabbits will be taken by squirrel hunters.

Waterfowl: Manipulation of water levels in some of the bottoms, forming green tree reservoirs will be accomplished if compatible with other land uses. These small areas should furnish excellent waterfowl habitat and serve as a boost



in the arm to waterfowl hunting in this area.

Turkey: This area is rated suitable for turkey habitat and it is desirable to stock this area with native wild birds. The limiting factor here is obtaining wild stock for transplanting. It has been found that pen-reared birds for restocking purposes are not desirable, therefore, only wild trapped birds will be placed in this area when obtainable.

Exotic Birds (non-native): No exotic species of animal or bird will be introduced until it is determined it will benefit hunting. The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission is experimenting with several species of exotic game birds and one of the more promising species is the Red Junglefowl.

The Junglefowl, a native of Southern Asia, appears to be suited to the climate and conditions of the Concordia Area and it is planned to stock this area with this species within the next year or two.

In this section of the state woodland acreage decreases the rate of approximately 3500 acres each year. Also, within the past few years practically all of the open woodland has been leased to private clubs. Therefore, the Commission is constantly planning ahead to meet the needs of the growing hunter population.

Wildlife Management Areas, such as the Concordia Wildlife Management Area, are the answer to what is fast becoming a major problem in public hunting.

SHRIMP CONDITIONS - 1964

Lyle S. St. Amant

WITH THE SPRING shrimping season closing on July 15 and the Fall season opening on the third Monday in August, we reach a time near the chronological mid-point of shrimp production for 1964. This is a time when those Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission personnel involved in shrimp research and management find themselves in the unenviable position of trying to furnish satisfactory answers to the numerous questions about shrimp production or the lack of it which are raised by members of the shrimp industry or the casual fisherman.

Obviously, we can furnish some answers accurately, some represent our best judgment but without factual proof and in some cases there is no immediate answer. In order to better understand shrimp conditions in a given year a number of variable factors must be considered thus it is intended here, to summarize conditions in 1964 based on the best information available to date. This information should clear up some of the questions concerning shrimp conditions and production.

TOTAL PRODUCTION

The total production of shrimp in any calendar year is a composite total of several broods of shrimp and some remnants of the previous years production. For this reason it is difficult to predict the total production in advance but rather each segment of production must be examined as data are gathered about it.

For example, from January to May of 1964 production was excellent reaching 3,922,000 lbs., heads-off, as compared to 1,676,000 lbs. for the same period in 1963. This January to May production is for the most part residual adult shrimp remaining from the 1963 hatch. The good catch during this period is a reflection of the excellent 1963 production while the lower figure in early 1963 reflects the poorer 1962 production.

The first production from a 1964 brood occurs with the Spring season on brown shrimp from May to July. During this period the 1964 production was 9,334,000 lbs., heads-off, compared to 13,962,000 lbs. in 1963. This is a drop in brown shrimp production of approximately 33% for



There is hardly a major bayou or canal leading to the coastal bays which is not liberally sprinkled with shrimp boats. Shrimp is the big money crops for most commercial fishermen. The quality of Louisiana shrimp is known throughout the United States. Louisiana is the leading shrimp producing state and income for the thousands of persons engaged in shrimping or other facets of the industry is of major economic importance.

the period May 1 to July 15, 1964 and a drop of approximately 22% in the total production from January to July 15.

With half the calendar year over total shrimp production is approximately 12,175,000 lbs. as compared to 15,638,000 lbs. at the same period in 1963. The total expected catch for 1964 should approach 45 to 50 million lbs. heads-off, which indicates that most of the catch is yet to come and will be furnished by broods of white shrimp which enter the nursery areas from July to October. Should the white shrimp crop of 1964 equal or exceed that of 1963 the total 1964 production will be good, should it fall short by a significant amount the total catch, of course, will be unsatisfactory.

BROWN SHRIMP CONDITIONS

The brown shrimp production during the Spring season of 1964 is less than in 1963, a bumper year, by 4,600,000 lbs. or approximately 33%, yet the total production of approximately 9,334,000 lbs. is greater than 1961 and 1962 and is roughly equal to the 1960 catch. Explaining this decrease from 1963 poses a difficult problem. In previous

years final production could be fairly well coordinated with the offshore breeding, the density of postlarvae moving into the nursery areas and the numbers and distribution of juvenile shrimp on the nursery grounds.

In 1961 and 62, for example, breeding was low, postlarval densities were low and the juveniles were poorly distributed and occurring in only fair to moderate numbers. In 1964, however, breeding was good and postlarval movements into the nursery area excelled 1963 which was a bumper production year. Indications in early Spring pointed to the possibility of an excellent harvest of brown shrimp during the Spring season of 1964. In the four week period from mid-March to mid-April, however, something caused a heavy mortality or loss of postlarvae and/or juveniles. Juveniles did not materialize in the densities or distribution expected with such heavy postlarval movements and growth rates were reduced because of colder water temperatures. Although it is known when this loss occurred, there is no positive knowledge as to why it happened.

Generally one looks to catastrophic environmental changes or heavy predation as a cause of such mortalities. From an environmental standpoint, conditions in 1964 were considerably different from 1963. Water temperatures were lower and did not exceed 70° F, until some weeks later than 1963. This condition retarded growth rates but it is not believed to be the principal cause of mortality. Rainfall and high river stages lowered salinities much below the same periods in 1963 making much of the nursery areas less than optimum in salt content. Another factor that may have been involved was a large movement of small croakers into the nursery area which may have resulted in serious predation. No single one of these factors has been determined as the exact cause of mortality though a combination of the three may have resulted in excessive losses or some unknown factor may be involved.

A better diagnosis of the cause or causes may be forthcoming when the results of production and the data on postlarvae and juveniles from other States along the Gulf become available for correlation with the information from Louisiana. Early information indicates that conditions in

Mississippi and Alabama were similar to those in Louisiana while in Texas they were somewhat different.

In final analysis the brown shrimp production thus far in 1964 was disappointing in view of the expected catch based on postlarval movement. The actual catch more nearly reflected the sparse juvenile densities determined in April. The total catch though considerably less than in 1963 proved to be as large as the 1960 catch.

WHITE SHRIMP CONDITIONS

The white shrimp season will open the third Monday in August and continue until December 20, 1964. This season, much longer than the Spring season, is usually the period when the major portion of the annual production occurs.

In normal or good years considerable numbers of white and brown shrimp are available in inside waters in August, September and October. In poor seasons good catches may not occur until October, November and December. This variation in catch is apparently a result of two broods of white shrimp, one occurring in May, June and July and a second in late August, September and October. In some years the early brood is weak or fails, resulting in a scarcity of shrimp until after the second breeding peak occurs.

Field data completed through July 15, indicates that early breeding was successful and that white shrimp will be available when the season opens August 17, 1964. Postlarval movements and densities have been steady and apparently approach 1963 conditions. Juveniles are growing rapidly and are larger than the 1963 crop at the same date. Densities, however, are somewhat less than last year but it is too early to determine if this condition will prevail.

CONCLUSION

In summarizing it should be pointed out that total shrimp production in 1964 will probably be less than 1963, unless the white shrimp production exceeds that of last year. This is not likely, but should production of white shrimp approach that of 1963 the total production will be better than average since it should be remembered that 1963 was an unusual production year reaching a high of some 80,000,000 lbs., heads-on. *

At Grand Terre, location of Louisiana's Marine Research Laboratory; biologists of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, are engaged in widespread marine research activities. It is fitting then that the vessel used by the laboratory workers be named "Marine Research." The efforts of the Oysters, Water Bottoms and Seafood Division of the Commission have shed much light on Louisiana's estuarine life which is of great value to the overall economic position of the state.



Letters...

Questions...

Answers...

about

WILDLIFE in LOUISIANA

conducted by Steve Harmon



Dear Editor:

Alexandria

I just want you to know that many of your readers of Louisiana "CONSERVATIONIST" do enjoy this publication. The new July-August copy featuring articles on "Boat Launching Ramp Program" and "Bullfrogging in Louisiana" were especially good, I think. I certainly have enjoyed these as well as the entire publication, for that matter.

Since there are so many folks in our state who own a nice boat, motor and trailer, etc. I think it is indeed a wonderful program for our Wildlife and our Police Juries and our legislative branches of government to put more emphasis on the construction of these much-needed launching ramps. They are needed, and I think it is a deserving way for a portion of our tax dollar to be spent.

GEO. A. SWAFFORD



Ray Guste of New Orleans, chef at Antoine's, beams as he is photographed with this lunker largemouth bass he caught out of McGill's pond near Norwood recently. The weight and length of the bass is still a mystery, but the record Louisiana largemouth came out of a farm pond in the Florida Parishes and if the above photograph is not deceiving, this one could have been in the seven pound class.

Dear Steve: Washington, D.C.

As you already know, the President's Water Pollution Control Advisory Board sponsors an annual campaign to help alert the public to its need for clean water. Radio, television and other media have very generously supported this campaign and it has done much good.

We hope that this year you may be able to help in this campaign. One way might be by using the enclosed logotype as a column filler. This is a variation of a poster which is being distributed

by the Public Health Service. Some 50,000 copies will appear on Post Office trucks in June and another 100,000 copies are being distributed later in the summer by State water pollution control agencies.

We know how well informed you are about water pollution and how much editorial attention you have given it in the past. If we can assist you in any way in developing new stories or editorials about it during the period of our present campaign, please let us know. We will be delighted to help in any way we can.

JAMES R. HARLAN
Conservation Consultant
Division of Water Supply
and Pollution Control

PROTECT
AMERICA'S
CLEAN
WATER



Dear Editor:

Shreveport

As I am very much interested in the outdoors and conservation I plan on making this my occupation. I am going into the tenth grade at Fair Park High School. When I am graduated from high school I plan to go on to college. I am also very interested in working for the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. What I would like to inquire about is if there are special colleges or universities to attend before entering this field of work. I would like to attend one that is



Bass, sac-a-lait and catfish are all on the stringer of George B. Ford. These fish were caught in Anacoco Lake.

close to Shreveport and I would also like to work in this area.

I am an avid hunter and I also get a kick out of telling the kids in Boy Scouts about conservation. I am a Life Scout and I am going on Eagle.

CHARLES M. COLBERT

It is gratifying to learn of your interest in the outdoors and conservation of our natural resources. I hope you continue this interest through high school and college and find a place in the resource use education field as a profession.

Both Northwestern State College at Natchitoches and Louisiana Tech at Ruston offer basic resource use education courses. Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge has a top rated school of forestry and wildlife management. I suggest you contact all these educational institutions for catalogs.

Game and fish management is recognized in the science field today and will, I'm sure, offer many challenges in the future years. I would recommend a minor in Journalism or English to go along with the biology or game management major. A researcher who also publishes interesting and factual reports is recognized forever.

STEVE HARMON

Dear Editor: Monroe

It gives me great pleasure to see the yield that comes out of Bussy Lake in Bastrop.

Am enclosing a picture that I would like for you to enter in the Conservationist. It is 30 bass that were caught by these two boys in the picture. The reverse side of the picture gives full details.

I want to personally thank the Wildlife & Fisheries for keeping close tab on the stocking of this lake.

J. B. THOMAN



Left to right: Robert Burley, Ronnie Williams, and David Thoman.

Ahhh—would that I was a boy again!

Dear Editor:

Albany

I am a constant reader of your wonderful magazine. I have enclosed a snapshot of a gobbler I killed this past turkey season. Will you please put the picture in your next issue?

I have a hunting pal that would very much like to get your maga-



zine. His name and address is: Lenwood Stilley, Rt. 1, Independence, La.

EDDY L. KINCHEN



Dear Editor:

Raceland

Enclosed is a snapshot of a 4½ pound Bass caught in Lake Boeuf by Houston Matherne, Jr., age 14, of Raceland on May 16, 1964.

Please reprint this picture and the LOUISIANA CONSERVATIONIST.

ALEX BOURGEOIS



BOBCAT HUNT—H. N. Pippen, left and H. H. Wise of Soudheimer and Tallulah look over the results of a successful cat hunt in Madison Parish last April. The cats were killed while being chased by ten beagle hounds such as you see in the back of the pickup truck.

Commission Announces Hunting Seasons

(Editor's Note: At the time this issue went to press, the seasons, bag limits, framework and other regulations for the hunting of ducks, geese and coots had not been established. Full details on the waterfowl season will be contained in the next issue of the Louisiana Conservationist.)

THE LOUISIANA Wild Life and Fisheries Commission today ratified seasons and bag limits on doves, snipe, woodcock, rails and gallinules and established the seasons and bag limits for quail, rabbits, squirrel, deer, bear and turkey.

The seasons were set at the regular monthly public meeting of the commission in its main office, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans. Ratification of the seasons on doves, snipe, woodcock, rails and gallinules followed earlier action of the commission this month in order to meet the deadline for selection of seasons within the framework established by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Louisiana will have the following hunting seasons and bag limits during the 1964-65 seasons:

Quail: November 26—February 14; Daily Bag 10; Possession 20.

Rabbit: October 3—February 14; Daily Bag 8; Possession 16.

Squirrel: October 3—January 10; Daily Bag 8; Possession 16.

Bear: December 26—December 30; Daily Bag 1, Season Limit 1.

Turkey: April 3—April 18; Daily Bag 1, Gobblers only; Season Limit 1.

Deer: See Deer Hunting Schedule

Archery Season: October 17—November 22, 1964, Inclusive (See Deer Hunting Schedule)

Commercial Hunting Preserve: October 1—March 31, Pen-raised birds only.

Doves: 3 way split:

Sept. 5—Sept. 20, 16 days.

Oct. 17—Nov. 8, 23 days.

Dec. 5—Jan. 4, 31 days.

Bag Limit 12; Possession 24.

Shooting hours

noon till

sunset

Rails and Gallinules: October 3—Nov. 21; Bag limit 15; Possession 30.

Woodcock: November 26—January 14; Bag Limit 5; Possession 10.

Snipe: November 26—January 14; Bag Limit 8, Possession 16.

Bear: December 26-30, inclusive, East Carroll and Madison Parishes: East of Bayou Macon from the Arkansas line to U.S. Hwy. 80 and north

of U.S. Hwy. 80 from Bayou Macon to the Mississippi River.

St. Mary, Iberia and Vermilion Parishes: East of Vermilion River from Vermilion Bay to La. Hwy. 14, south of La. Hwy. 14 and U.S. Hwy. 90 from Vermilion River to the Atchafalaya River, and west of the Atchafalaya River from U.S. Hwy. 90 to Atchafalaya Bay.

Bag limit 1 per season. The killing of cub bear is prohibited.

Turkey: April 3-18, 1965, inclusive. Bag 1 gobbler per season. May be taken by still hunting only; the use of dogs and baiting being specifically prohibited. Open only in the following areas:

AREA No. A—Union and Morehouse Parishes. East of La. Hwy. 549 from Arkansas line to La. Hwy. 348 at Conway; North of La. Hwys. 348 and 33 from Conway to Marion; east of La. Hwys. 143 and 2 from Marion to Ouachita River; west of Ouachita River from La. Hwy. 2 to the intersection of Parish Road and Ouachita River (south of Papaw Lake); north of Parish Road and La. Hwy. 592 from Ouachita River to U.S. Hwy. 165; north of U.S. Hwy. 165 from La. Hwy. 592 to La. Hwy. 139; west of La. Hwys. 139 and 140 from Bastrop to Bonita; west of U.S. Hwy. 165 from Bonita to Arkansas line; Except the Union Parish Game Management Area and Terzia Refuge which are closed.

AREA NO. B—Madison, Franklin, Catahoula, Concordia and Tensas Parishes. South of U.S. Hwy. 80 from the Mississippi River to La. Hwy. 17. East of La. Hwys. 17 and 15 from Delhi to Winnsboro to Clayton; east and north of U. S. Hwy. 65 from Clayton to the Mississippi River.

AREA NO. C—East Feliciana, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, St. Helena, and Tangipahoa Parishes. East of Thompson Creek from the Mississippi line to La. Hwy. 10; north of La. Hwy. 10 from Thompson Creek to Clinton; east of La. Hwy. 67 from Clinton to the junction of U.S. Hwy. 190 at Baton Rouge; north of U.S. Hwy. 190 from La. Hwy. 67 to the Amite River; east of Amite River from U.S. Hwy. 190 to Lake Maurepas; north of Lake Maurepas from Amite River to U.S. Hwy. 51; and west of U.S. Hwy. 51 from Lake Maurepas to the Mississippi State Line.

AREA NO. D—Washington and St. Tammany Parishes. East of La. Hwy. 25 from the Mississippi State line to Covington; east and north of U.S. Hwy. 190 from Covington to the junction of U.S. Hwy. 90; and north of U.S. Hwy. 90 from the junction with U.S. Hwy. 190 to the Mississippi State Line.

1964-65 DEER HUNTING SCHEDULE

A. Bag: One legal deer per day; 3 legal deer per season.

B. Legal buck is defined as a deer with antlers not less than three inches in length. The killing of bucks with antlers less than three inches and doe deer is prohibited except where specifically permitted.

C. Deer hunting restricted to legal bucks only, except where otherwise specifically permitted.

D. Either sex deer, or any deer, is defined as any male or female deer, except spotted fawns which are protected, taken in any area designated and regulated as such.

E. Still Hunting Only prohibits the use of dogs for hunting or the training of dogs in areas so designated, including game management or refuge areas. In all other areas, deer hunting will be permitted with or without the use of dogs.

F. All areas not specifically designated as being open are hereby closed.

G. Archery season: October 17-November 22, 1964.

The taking of deer permitted in all areas declared open for deer hunting, including all game management areas except the following: Lutchter-Moore, Saline, Zermurray, Thistlethwaite and Concordia. Either sex deer may be taken in all open areas except in Grant, Union, LaSalle, Evangeline, Sabine, Washington, Iberville, East Carroll, West Feliciana, Claiborne, Morehouse, Tangipahoa and Vernon Parishes. Permits required for hunting on game management areas. For details, see provisions under game management area schedule. Special bow and arrow regulations: Arrows used for hunting deer shall have well sharpened metal broadhead blades not less than 7/8 inch in width.

The following shall be unlawful:

1. To have in possession any gun while hunting with bow and arrow during the special bow and arrow deer season.

2. To have in possession, or under control while hunting, any poisoned arrows, arrows with explosive tips, or any bow drawn, held or released by mechanical means.

3. To hunt deer with a bow having a pull less than 30 pounds.

DESCRIPTION OF AREAS

AREA NO. 1: 40 days with or without dogs November 27-December 20, December 26-January 10, 1965. E. Baton Rouge, St. Landry, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, Iberville, St. Martin, Lafayette, Iberia, Vermilion, St. Mary, Terrebonne, Assumption, St. James, Ascension, St. John, St. Charles, Lafourche, Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, Orleans, Livingston, Tangipahoa, and St. Tammany Parishes.

South of La. Hwy. 14 from Cameron-Vermilion Parish line to New Iberia, east of U.S. Hwy. 90 from New Iberia to Lafayette, east of U.S. Hwy. 167 from Lafayette to Opelousas, south of U.S. Hwy. 190 from Opelousas to its junction with U.S. 71, east of U.S. Hwy. 71 from the junction of U.S. Hwy. 190 to LeBeau, south of La. Hwy. 10 from LeBeau to La. Hwy. 360, east of La. Hwy. 360 from La. Hwy. 10 to the Atchafalaya River, east and south of the Atchafalaya River and lower Old River from La. Hwy. 360 to the Mississippi River, west of the Mississippi River from lower Old River to La. Hwy. 22 (Ascension Parish) south of La. Hwy. 22 from Mississippi River to Sorrento to Springfield to the Tchefuncte River, west of the Tchefuncte River from La. Hwy. 22 to Lake Pontchartrain, west and south of Lake Pontchartrain to Lake Borgne, and south and east of Lake Borgne to the Mississippi Sound. Included is Profit Island in East Baton Rouge Parish.

EXCEPT: That area as designated as No. 16 which is Still Hunting Only.

33 days, with or without dogs*; November 27-December 13; December 26-January 10, 1965.

AREA NO. 2: Morehouse, East Carroll, West Carroll, Madison, Richland, Franklin, Tensas, Catahoula, LaSalle, Concordia, West Feliciana, Avoyelles, and St. Landry. East of Ouachita River from Arkansas line to Hwy. 2 at Sterlington. North of Hwy. 2 to junction of U.S. Hwy. 165, east of U.S. Hwy. 165 to junction of La. Hwy. 134. North of La. Hwy. 134 from U.S. Hwy. 165 to Little

Bayou Boeuf, East of Little Bayou Boeuf to Lafourche Drainage Canal, North of Lafourche Drainage Canal (Irwin Lake) to Gum Ridge Road, West of Gum Ridge Road from the Lafourche Drainage Canal to La. Hwy. 134 from Gum Ridge Road to Boeuf River; North and West of Boeuf River from La. Hwy. 134 to La. Hwy. 588; North of La. Hwy. 588 from Boeuf River to Pioneer; East of La. Hwy. 17 from Pioneer to Winnboro; East and South of La. Hwy. 15, Deer Creek, Boeuf and Ouachita Rivers from Winnboro to Jonesville; south and east of U.S. Hwy. 84, Old River, Catahoula Lake, Big Saline Bayou, and Big Creek from Jonesville to La. Hwy. 115; East of La. Hwy. 115 from Big Creek to Bunkie; East of U.S. Hwy. 71 from Bunkie to LeBeau, North of La. Hwy. 10, from LeBeau to La. Hwy. 360, West of La. Hwy. 360 from La. Hwy. 10 to the Atchafalaya River, West and North of Atchafalaya River and Lower Old River from La. Hwy. 360 to Mississippi River.

*Either sex deer shall be legal during the first 5 days of the open season in that portion of Madison Parish south of U.S. Hwy. 80 extending to the Madison-Tensas Parish line and bounded on the West by State Route 577 to Bayou Macon and on the East by U.S. Hwy. 65 from Tallulah South to the Turnable Road (Hwy. 603), and by Turnable Road to the Sevier-Watts Road (Madison Parish Road G/1) and along the Sevier-Watts Road to the Madison-Tensas Parish line. All of Tensas Parish except Ward 3.

33 days, with or without dogs; November 27-December 13; December 26-January 10, 1965.

AREA NO. 3*: Rapides, Beauregard, Allen, Evangeline, St. Landry, Vernon, and Avoyelles Parishes. South and East of La. Hwys. 28, 112 and 113 from Alexandria to Union Hill through Pitkin to Sugartown to U.S. Hwy. 171; East of U.S. Hwy. 171 from La. Hwy. 112 to Ragley; North of U.S. Hwy. 190 from Ragley to Opelousas; West of U.S. Hwy. 167 from Opelousas to Ville Platte; West of La. Hwy. 29 from Ville Platte to Bunkie; West of U.S. Hwy. 71 from Bunkie to Alexandria.

*Either sex deer shall be legal on November 27 in that portion of the area South and East of La. Hwy. 28 from Alexandria to Hinston; North of La. Hwy. 112 from Hinston to Lecompte; West of U.S. Hwy. 71 from Lecompte to Alexandria.

33 days, with or without dogs; November 27-December 13; December 26-January 10, 1965.

AREA NO. 4: Winn, Caldwell, LaSalle, Grant, Rapides, Natchitoches, Jackson and Bienville Parishes.

East of Red River from the Grant-Rapides Parish line to Saline Bayou; East of Saline Bayou to Black Lake Bayou; East of Black Lake Bayou to La. Hwy. 155; South of La. Hwy. 155 to La. Hwy. 9; South and West of La. Hwy. 9 to La. Hwy. 126 to Dugdemona Creek; East of Dugdemona Creek to La. Hwy. 4; South of La. Hwy. 4 to Vixen; West of parish road from Vixen to La. Hwy. 126; North of La. Hwy. 126 to La. Hwy. 127; West of La. Hwy. 127 to U.S. Hwy. 165; West of U.S. Hwy. 165 to Little River; West of Little River to the Grant-Rapides Parish line; North of the Grant-Rapides Parish line to Red River.

33 days, with or without dogs; November 27-December 13; December 26-January 10, 1965.

AREA NO. 5: Natchitoches and Red River Parishes.

South of La. Hwy. 174 from Ajax to intersection of La. Hwy. 1; East of La. Hwy. 1 to intersection of U.S. Hwy. 84 at Armistead, South and West of U.S. Hwy. 84 and U.S. Hwy. 71 from Armistead to Clarence; North and West of La. Hwy. 6 from Clarence to Natchitoches; West of La. Hwy. 1 from Natchitoches to Derry; West of La. Hwy. 119 from Derry to Gorum; North and West of the Kisatchie-Mink-Gorum Road (La. Hwy. 118) to Kisatchie; East of La. Hwy. 117 from Kisatchie to Vowell's Mill Road; North and East of Vowell's Mill Road (La. Hwy. 478) to Robeline; North and East of La. Hwy. 120 to Marthaville; East of La. Hwy. 487 from Marthaville to Ajax.

33 days, with or without dogs; November 27-December 13; December 26-January 10, 1965.

NO. 2: Sabine, DeSoto, and Vernon Parishes.
*East of U.S. Hwy. 84 from Texas line to Logansport
Mansfield; West of U.S. Hwy. 171 from Mansfield to
Leesville; North of La. Hwy. 8 from Leesville to Burr
Perry to Texas line.

33 days, with or without dogs; November 27-December
13; December 26-January 10, 1965.

AREA No. 7: Beauregard and Calcasieu Parishes.

South of Anacoco Bayou; West of La. Hwy. 111, and
South of U.S. Hwy. 190 from the Texas line to De-
Ridder; West of La. Hwy. 27 from DeRidder to Sulphur
and North of U.S. Hwy. 90 from Sulphur to the Texas
line.

21 days, with or without dogs; November 27-December
6, 1964; December 26-January 5, 1965.

AREA No. 8: Winn, Jackson, Caldwell, Ouachita,
Franklin, Catahoula, LaSalle, Union, Lincoln, Bienville,
Morehouse and Richland Parishes.

West of Ouachita River from Arkansas line to Ster-
lington; South of La. Hwy. 2 from Sterlington to U.S.
Hwy. 165; to junction of La. Hwy. 134; South of La.
Hwy. 134 from U.S. 165 to Little Boeuf Bayou; West of
Little Boeuf Bayou from La. Hwy. 134 to Lafourche
Drainage Canal; South of Lafourche Drainage Canal
to Gum Ridge Road; East of Gum Ridge Road to La.
Hwy. 134; South of La. Hwy. 134 from Gum Ridge
junction to La. Hwy. 183; West of La. Hwy. 183 to
U.S. Hwy. 80 at Holly Ridge; North of U.S. Hwy. 80 from
Holly Ridge to Rayville; West of La. Hwy. 137 from Ray-
ville to Archibald; West of La. Hwy. 15 from Archibald to
Deer Creek; West of Deer Creek and Ouachita River to
Jonesville; North of U.S. Hwy. 84 from Jonesville to
Jena; North of La. Hwy. 772 and La. Hwy. 8 from Jena
to Little River; East of Little River to junction of U.S.
Hwy. 165; East of U.S. Hwy. 165 from Little River to
junction of La. Hwy. 127; North of La. Hwy. 127 to
junction of La. Hwy. 126; North of La. Hwy. 126 to
Parish road from Chester to Vixen; North of La. Hwy.
4 from Vixen to Jonesboro; East of La. Hwy. 147 from
Jonesboro to Arcadia; East of La. Hwy. 518 from
Arcadia to Lisbon; South of La. Hwy. 2 from Lisbon
to Bernice; East of U.S. Hwy. 167 from Bernice to Ark-
ansas line.

21 days, with or without dogs; November 27-December
6; December 26-January 5, 1965.

AREA No. 9: West Feliciana Parish.

South of Como Bayou from Mississippi River to
abandoned L & A Railroad; West of L & A Railroad
from this junction to Bayou Sara; West and North of
Bayou Sara from abandoned Railroad to Mississippi
River; North and East of Mississippi River from Bayou
Sara to Como Bayou.

21 days, with or without dogs; November 27-December
6; December 26-January 5, 1965.

AREA No. 10: Washington and St. Tammany Parishes.
East and South of La. Hwys. 25 and 10 from Missis-
sippi line to Tchefuncte River; East of Tchefuncte River
from La. Hwy. 10 to Lake Pontchartrain; North of Lake
Pontchartrain; Rigolets and Lake Borgne from Tche-
functe River to Mississippi line.

28 days; 9 days still hunting; November 7-November
15; November 15; 19 days with or without dogs; Novem-
ber 27 through December 6, with November 27 being
legal for either sex deer except in the parishes indicated*;
December 26 through January 3, with or without dogs,
bucks only.

AREA No. 11: Caddo, Webster, Claiborne, DeSoto, Red
River, Union, Bienville, Jackson, Winn, Lincoln, Sabine,
Natchitoches, and Bossier.

West of U.S. Hwy. 167 from Arkansas line to Bernice;
North and West of La. Hwys. 2, 518, and 519 from Ber-
nice to Lisbon to Arcadia; West of La. Hwy. 147 and
U.S. Hwy. 167 from Arcadia to Jonesboro; North of
La. Hwy. 4 from Jonesboro to Dugdemona Creek to La.
Hwy. 126; North of La. Hwy. 126 to La. Hwy. 9; East
of La. Hwy. 9 from La. Hwy. 126 to La. Hwy. 155;
North of La. Hwy. 155 to Mill to Readhimer to Saline
to Ashland to Black Lake Bayou; West of Black Lake

Bayou to La. Hwy. 9; North of La. Hwy. 9 from Black
Lake to intersection U.S. Hwy. 71 and La. Hwy. 84;
East of U.S. Hwy. 71 and La. Hwy. 84 from junction of
La. Hwy. 9 to Coushatta; North of La. Hwy. 84 from
Coushatta to Armistead; West of U.S. Hwy. 1 from
Armistead to Lake End; North of La. Hwy. 174 from
Lake End to Converse; East of U.S. Hwy. 171 from Con-
verse to Mansfield; North of U.S. Hwy. 84 from Mans-
field to Logansport to the Louisiana, Texas line; ex-
cept Barksdale Air Force Base which shall be open for
still hunting only for either sex deer during the above
described dates.

*Only buck deer will be legal in above described parts
Sabine, Lincoln, Jackson, Winn, Natchitoches and all of
Claiborne and Bossier Parishes except Bodcau Game
Management Area where either sex deer will be legal
on November 27, 1964.

19 days; 9 days still hunting; November 7-November
15; 10 days with or without dogs; November 27-December
6.

AREA No. 12: Sabine, Natchitoches, Vernon Parishes.
South of La. Hwy. 174 from Converse to Ajax; West
of La. Hwy. 487 from Ajax to Marthaville; South and
West of La. Hwy. 120 from Marthaville to Robeline;
West of Robeline-Vowell's Mills Road; South and West
of La. Hwys. 478 and 117 from Vowell's Mills to Lees-
ville; East and North of U.S. Hwy. 171 from Leesville
to Converse.

19 days; 9 days still hunting; November 7-November
15; 10 days, with or without dogs; November 27-
December 6. Either sex deer legal November 27 only.

AREA No. 13: Rapides Parish.

North and East of Red River from the Avozelles-
Rapides Parish line to the Rapides-Grant Parish bound-
ary; South of the Rapides-Grant boundary to the LaSalle
Parish boundary; West of the Rapides-LaSalle boundary
and Rapides-Avozelles boundary to Red River.

19 days; 9 days still hunting; November 7-November
15; 10 days with or without dogs; November 27-December
6.

AREA No. 14: East Feliciana, East Baton Rouge and
St. Helena Parishes.

West of La. Hwy. 441 from Mississippi line to junction
of La. Hwy. 16, north of La. Hwy. 16 from La. Hwy.
441 to Amite River at Dennis Mills, West of Amite River
from Dennis Mills to Stony Point; North of Stony Point-
Burch Road from Stony Point to Fred; and East of La.
Hwy. 67 from Fred to Mississippi line.

16 days still hunting only; November 7-November 22.

AREA No. 15: *Parishes of Natchitoches, Vernon,
Beauregard, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, Allen, Rapides,
and Avozelles.

East of U.S. Hwy. 171 from DeRidder to Leesville;
East of La. Hwy. 117 from Leesville to Kisatchie; South
of Kisatchie-Mink Gorum Road; East of La. Hwys. 119,
1 and 6, from Gorum to Red River; West of Red River
from La. Hwy. 6 to La. Hwy. 115; West of La. Hwy.
115 from Red River to U.S. Hwy. 71 at Bunkie; East
of U.S. Hwy. 71 from Bunkie to Alexandria; North and
West of La. Hwys. 28, 112, 113 and 112 from Alexandria
to Union Hill to Pitkin to Sugartown to U.S. Hwy. 171;
West of U.S. Hwy. 171 from La. Hwy. 112 to Ragley;
South of U.S. Hwy. 190 from Ragley to Kinder; West of
U.S. Hwy. 165 from Kinder to Iowa; North of U.S.
Hwy. 90 from Iowa to Sulphur; East of La. Hwy. 27
from Sulphur to DeRidder.

*Either sex deer shall be legal on November 27 in that
portion of the area East of U.S. Hwy. 171 from DeRidder
to Leesville; South of La. Hwy. 28 from Leesville to
Lacamp; West of La. Hwys. 489 and 399 from Lacamp
to Pitkin; West of La. Hwy. 118 from Pitkin to Sugar-
town; North of La. Hwy. 112 from Sugartown to De-
Ridder.

16 days, still hunting only; November 7-November 22.

AREA No. 16: St. John the Baptist Parish.

South of Pass Manchac from Lake Pontchartrain to
U.S. Hwy. 51; East of U.S. Hwy. 51 from Pass Manchac
to La. Hwy. 638 (Frenier Beach Road) and North of

La. Hwy. 638 from U.S. Hwy. 51 to Lake Pontchartrain. Shore of Lake Pontchartrain from La. Hwy. 638 to confluence of Pass Manchac.

5 days, with or without dogs, November 27-December 1.
AREA No. 17: East Baton Rouge, Ascension and Livingston Parishes.

East of U.S. Hwy. 61 from U.S. Hwy. 190 to La. Hwy. 42; North of La. Hwy. 42 from U.S. Hwy. 61 to La. Hwy. 447 at Port Vincent; West of La. Hwy. 447 from Port Vincent to U.S. Hwy. 190 at Walker; South of U.S. Hwy. 190 from Walker to U.S. Hwy. 61.

1964-65 Game Management Areas Schedule

For all Game Management Areas, except as otherwise specified:

DEER: 5 days of deer hunting as follows:

November 27-December 1, 1964, either sex until the designated number of deer are taken, after which the remaining days of the total 5 days, if any, shall be open to "bucks only" hunting. Notification of type hunt to be made when daily permit obtained.

PERMITS: When daily permits are required these may be obtained at the permit stations located on or near the Game Management Areas.

Season permits, where required, may be obtained in advance beginning September 1 from any Commission District Office; P. O. Box 915, Minden; P. O. Box 4004, Ouachita Station, Monroe; P. O. Box 278, Tioga; P. O. Box 426, Ferriday; P. O. Box 405, DeRidder; P. O. Box 585, Opelousas; P. O. Box 14526, Southeast Station, Baton Rouge.

Turkey Season permits obtained at District Offices listed above beginning March 1, 1965.

EVANGELINE:

Deer: 125 Any Deer and 5 days, November 27-December 1, 1964; Daily Permit.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-31; Season Permit.

Quail: December 5-9; February 6-14, 1965; Season Permit.

CATAHOULA:

Deer: 350 Any Deer and 5 days, November 27-December 1, 1964; Daily Permit.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-31. Season Permit.

CALDWELL:

Deer: 150 Any Deer and 5 days, November 27-December 1, 1964; Daily Permit.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-31; Season Permit.

CHICAGO MILL:

Deer: 1500 Any Deer and 5 days, November 27-December 1, 1964; Daily Permit.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-31; Season Permit.

Turkey: April 3-18. Special Turkey Season Permit required, available from District Offices after March 1, 1965.

WEST BAY:

Deer: 800 Any Deer and 5 days; November 27-December 1, 1964; Daily Permit.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-31; Season Permit.

Quail: December 5-9; February 6-14; Season Permit.

FORT POLK:

Deer: 300 Any Deer and 3 days; November 27-29; Daily Permit.

Deer: Concurrent with adjacent areas—legal bucks only.

*Season Permit.

All small game—all statewide seasons applicable. The use of dogs prohibited during deer seasons. Season Permit.

*Military clearance possibly required in addition to Season Permit—Check locally.

JACKSON-BIENVILLE:

Deer: 400 Any Deer and 5 days; November 27-December 1; Daily Permit.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-31; Season Permit.

Quail: December 5-9; Feb. 6-14; Season Permit.

UNION:

Deer: 100 Any Deer and 5 days; November 27-December 1; Daily Permit.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-31; Season Permit.

EAST CARROLL:

Deer: 175 Any Deer and 5 days; November 27-

December 1; Daily Permit.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-31; Season Permit.

RUSSEL SAGE:

Deer: Same as outside with Season Permit except 1 day (November 27) any deer with Daily Permit.

All small game same as outside but still hunt only. Season Permit.

No permanent duck blinds.

BODCAU:

Deer: Same as outside except still hunt only 1 day (Nov. 27) any deer; Season permit.

All small game same as outside but still hunt only; Season permit.

Dogs allowed only for bird hunting.

No permanent duck blinds.

SABINE:

Deer: 100 Any Deer and 5 days; November 27-December 1; Daily Permit.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-31; Season Permit.

RED DIRT:

Deer: 250 Any Deer and 5 days; November 27-December 1; Daily Permit.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-31; Season Permit.

Quail: December 5-9; February 6-14; Season Permit.

THISTLETHWAITE:

Deer hunting prohibited.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-18; November 7-15; mornings only until 12 noon.

Daily Permit.

LUTCHER-MOORE:

Deer hunting prohibited.

All small game—all statewide seasons applicable—the use of dogs permitted only for quail hunting; Season Permit.

CONCORDIA:

Deer hunting prohibited.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-November 26; Season Permit.

ALEXANDER STATE FOREST:

Deer: 80 Any Deer and 5 days; November 27-December 1; Daily Permit.

Squirrel and Rabbit: October 3-31; Season Permit.

Check locally for restricted areas.

ZEMURRAY PARK:

Deer: December 2, 3, and 4. Any Deer. 200 hunters per day. Non-transferable permits are to be issued by mail in advance of hunts.

Resident hunters only to be selected at public drawing in New Orleans on Tuesday, November 17. Applicants do not have to be present. Post card applications must be made by United States mail only to Fish and Game Division, Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, 70130, being postmarked between Thursday, October 15, and Saturday, November 14, and received at the above address no later than Monday, November 16. Hunter's failure to include big game license number will void his application. Only one application will be considered. State choice with one (1) alternate date for one (1) of three designated days. More than one name per application will automatically void such application. Duplicate applications by any hunter will cancel all his applications. No small game hunting permitted.

SODA LAKE:

Waterfowl hunting permitted Monday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings only (until 12 noon) throughout waterfowl season. Season Permit.

Small game seasons open during statewide season EXCEPT no hunting allowed during the closed portions of waterfowl seasons.

No permanent duck blinds.

SALINE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA:

New Area (recently purchased)—CLOSED due to work on area for improvement of habitat, construction on area, removal of camps, and wildlife build-up. No hunting of any kind will be permitted on this area during the 1964-65 season.

Governor Appoints Two Wildlife Commissioners



H. Clay Wright

TWO NEW MEMBER: of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission formally took office at the regular July monthly meeting.

The new members are Jimmie Thompson, well known business man and sportsman from Alexandria, and Mayor H. Clay Wright of Evergreen, in Avoyelles Parish.

Thompson replaces L. Richard Fleming, Shreveport whose term ran concurrent with that of former Governor Jimmie H. Davis, expiring when Governor John J. McKeithen was inaugurated.

Mayor Wright was appointed to the Commission, filling a vacancy created by the resignation of James J. Frey, Lafayette.

A native of Boyce, Thompson is an avid fisherman and hunter and has traveled extensively throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico on fishing and hunting trips for many years.

Among many business enterprises, he is also one of the largest regional manufacturers of fishing lures in the country.

"For years I have been vitally interested in hunting and fishing, as well as all other facets of wildlife and fisheries management," Thompson said during a press interview shortly after taking office. "Consequently, I will do everything in my power to further the interests of the Commission and wildlife resources in general."

He described the appointment as a personal



Jimmie Thompson

challenge which appeals to him because of his deep interest in both recreational as well as economical demands being made upon wildlife resources.

A veteran pilot and owner of several planes, he flies to his favorite fishing spots in Louisiana.

Thompson is married and father of four children. His sons hunt and fish with him. Grassy Lake on Red River is one of his favorite fishing spots in Louisiana.

He is a member of numerous civic and conservation agencies throughout the state and one of the leading members of the Harmony Hunting Club located in the general Old River and Turnbull area.

Mayor Wright is a cotton and soy bean farmer. He is vitally interested in securing additional lands and water areas for outdoor recreational purposes.

He is a graduate of Evergreen high school and attended Louisiana State University.

Mayor Wright has fished and hunted all his life and is a member of the Avoyelles Sportsmen's League and other conservation groups throughout the state.

He is married and father of five children.

Both new commissioners were administered the oath of office by Secretary of State Wade O. Martin prior to attending their first commission meeting. *

The Bird of the month

Charles R. Shaw

THERE ARE FOUR RAILS on which there is an open hunting season in Louisiana and the Virginia Rail ranks third in size. It is only about half the size of the Clapper and King Rails and is just a little larger than the Sora. However, the rather long, slightly down-curved bill quickly distinguishes it from the latter which has a chicken-like beak. The upper parts of the Virginia Rail are brownish with the dark brown of the wings and back showing a more or less mottled effect due to lighter colored feather edges. The underparts are a sort of reddish brown except the flanks and under tail coverts which are barred with white stripes on a dark background and the throat which is white. In common with other rails, the tail is short and carried at an upward angle. The reddish plumage on the front of the wing is especially noticeable in flight. Actually, except for the Virginia Rail's bluish-gray cheeks it resembles to a marked degree a miniature King Rail.

These birds are seldom seen although they are quite active during the day, feeding in the dense marsh vegetation. The lateral compression of their bodies, which gives rise to the phrase, "thin as a rail", enables them to slip easily between the sedge or cattail stems. A person is much more likely to hear rails than to see them, although he may have trouble classifying what he hears. A wide variety of calls, including a series of grunts which sound like a tiny pig, are uttered by the Virginia Rail.

A migratory bird which travels at night, the Virginia Rail shows up in Louisiana around September and departs around April. Perhaps "shows up" is not a good term to use for these birds are very seldom seen, even by competent ornithological observers. There is a possibility that this may actually be a bird which breeds locally but the summer population is too sparse and secretive to have yielded up any direct evidence of this so far.

We know from information from other areas that the nest is made of cattail leaves or other grasses, shaped in the form of a cup and placed at the base of water-plants on the ground or only a short distance above the water, and usually sheltered from above by vegetation bent down by the parent bird. The six to twelve buffy-white eggs are usually allowed to accumulate until the clutch is complete before incubation, a job which

VIRGINIA RAIL

Rallus limicola



is shared by both parents, is commenced. This means that the brood should hatch off at about the same time rather than being staggered out over a number of days. This may help to reduce the hazards inherent on hatching out young in such situations.

The babies themselves resemble tiny coal black, fluffy, little chickens with pinkish bills. These little fellows can swim but the mother usually moves her family to the edge of the marsh rather than keeping them in deep water areas because it is easier to locate food. The family is subject to natural hazards including rats of various kinds, raccoons, mink, water snakes, crows, marsh hawks, etc., so that often only three or four of the youngsters survive to become adults.

As might be expected, the food of the Virginia Rail consists primarily of insects and other small aquatic organisms, worms, crustaceans and even at times tadpoles, shrimps, minnows, etc. Occasionally, seeds, berries, etc., are also taken.

Due to the inherent difficulties of hunting rails in the Louisiana marshes and the abundance of other available species, these birds have been largely ignored by the hunters of the state. The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has started research to determine population status, distribution, availability to the hunter, and dates of main migratory movements. *

MRS RUTH CAMPELL
CURATOR OF LA ROOM
LA STATE UNIV
BATON ROUGE LA

RETURN REQUESTED

*Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission
400 Royal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130*

READY FOR THE OPENING OF THE HUNTING SEASON

Doves Are First

It takes plenty of shells to hunt doves. Opening of the dove season on September 5 marks the start of the 1964-65 hunting season in the Pelican State. The wise dove hunter always takes plenty of shells. Those gray ghosts of the open fields present the easiest, or perhaps the hardest, kind of hunting. Tall tales may be spun about the average hunter's ability to connect with doves. When all the tale spinning is over, the honest hunter will admit that he fired more shells getting his limit on these birds than on any other resident or migratory game birds.

